PROJECT: Kankakee River Basin Feasibility Study

AUTHORIZATION: House Resolution (Docket 2468) dated 14 Sep 1995

TYPE: General Investigation - Flood Control and Ecosystem Restoration

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Kankakee River basin extends for 200 miles and covers more than 5,200 square miles in Illinois and Indiana. Recurrent flooding of the area has caused damages to agriculture and infrastructure. The study will investigate the flooding problem and recommend flood protection, sediment control and ecosystem restorations using traditional methods such as levees and sand removal and ecosystem enhancement, restoration and preservation features such as opening old river meanders, wetland creation, and erosion barriers.

CURRENT STATUS: The Reconnaissance Report was completed in March 1998. Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreements were signed in 1999 with the three project sponsors. Initiatives in Illinois are tributary bank stabilization and advanced obstruction removal; vegetation strips along ditches and streams; sediment control features in main channel. Initiatives in Indiana are sediment traps on Singleton Ditch; restoration of river meanders and levee control at Horseshoe Bend, reinforcement or new levees parallel to and adjacent to the existing sidecast levees, riverbank tree removal, vegetation buffers, re-meander drainage ditches and construction of marshes.

PLANNED WORK

FY01

* Continue work on the feasibility study, with anticipated completion in FY 02.

* Communicate with the public about the alternatives

PROJECT COST:

Total Study Cost Estimate	$3,300,000
Reconnaissance Phase (Federal)	100,000
Feasibility Phase (Federal)	1,550,000
Feasibility Phase (Non-Federal)	1,550,000

BENEFITS: To be determined in feasibility study. Project benefits will be based on both NED and NER plans.

LOCAL SPONSORS: Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Kankakee River Basin Commission (Indiana – co-signatory with Indiana DNR), and Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

ISSUES/CONCERNS: None

PROJECT MANAGER: Tim Kelleher